

ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 800, THE EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY PARTNERSHIP ACT

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules is planning to meet on Tuesday, March 9, to grant a rule which may limit the amendment process on H.R. 800, the Education Flexibility Partnership Act.

The rule may, at the request of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, include a provision requiring amendments to be preprinted in the amendments section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Amendments to be preprinted should be signed by the Member and submitted to the Speaker's table. Amendments should be drafted to the text of the bill as ordered reported by the Committee on Education and the Workforce. Copies of the text of the bill as reported can be obtained from the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to make sure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be sure their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

HONORING MORRIS KING UDALL, FORMER UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE FROM ARIZONA

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 40) honoring Morris King Udall, former United States Representative from Arizona, and extending the condolences of the Congress on his death, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 40

Whereas Morris King Udall served his Nation and his State of Arizona with honor and distinction in his 30 years as a Member of the United States House of Representatives;

Whereas Morris King Udall became an internationally recognized leader in the field of conservation, personally sponsoring legislation that more than doubled the National Park and National Wildlife Refuge systems, and added thousands of acres to America's National Wilderness Preservation System;

Whereas Morris King Udall was also instrumental in reorganizing the United States Postal Service, in helping enact legislation to restore lands left in the wake of surface mining, enhancing and protecting the civil service, and fighting long and consistently to

safeguard the rights and legacies of Native Americans;

Whereas in his lifetime, Morris King Udall became known as a model Member of Congress and was among the most effective and admired legislators of his generation;

Whereas this very decent and good man from Arizona also left us with one of the most precious gifts of all—a special brand of wonderful and endearing humor that was distinctly his;

Whereas Morris King Udall set a standard for all facing adversity as he struggled against the onslaught of Parkinson's disease with the same optimism and humor that were the hallmarks of his life; and

Whereas Morris King Udall in so many ways will continue to stand as a symbol of all that is best about public service, for all that is civil in political discourse, for all that is kind and gentle, and will remain an inspiration to others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) has learned with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Morris King Udall on December 12, 1998, and extends condolences to the Udall family, and especially to his wife Norma;

(2) expresses its profound gratitude to the Honorable Morris King Udall and his family for the service that he rendered to his country; and

(3) recognizes with appreciation and respect the Honorable Morris K. Udall's commitment to and example of bipartisanship and collegial interaction in the legislative process.

SECTION. 2. TRANSMISSION OF ENROLLED RESOLUTION.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit an enrolled copy of this Concurrent Resolution to the family of the Honorable Morris King Udall.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes of my time to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. PASTOR), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be here today to introduce and to call up this resolution honoring a great American and certainly a great Arizonan. There really could be no better homage to Mo Udall than if I could stand up here for a few minutes and take the time to simply lampoon myself.

But the risk of that kind of self-exploration would probably be too much. I might actually learn the truth about myself, for example, and turn to something more noble like perhaps running numbers or selling ocean-front parcels in Tucson. That was the kind of thing that Mo would say.

Mr. Speaker, Mo was a mentor and a close friend of many of us. Certainly, he was a friend of mine and a political idol as well. I have tried hard to follow in Mo's footsteps in southern Arizona's congressional district. Much of what he represented, I now represent. I certainly have learned extensive lessons in what it means to be second-best, because no one could ever best Mo Udall. So now I know what it is like to be taken off the bench to replace Mark McGwire, to sing backup to Pavarotti, to be Mike Tyson's sparring partner.

It is one of the humble honors of my career that I have the opportunity to

offer this resolution that will help affix Morris King Udall's name to our memories and to those of generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, if I could have a vote in my district for every time that he made one of us smile or laugh, I would be winning all of my elections unanimously. Mo was loved by the public. He was loved by the press, by his colleagues, and by his family, many of whom are here today.

There was a reason for that. It was because Mo Udall was true to Mo. He could stand for hours and he could tell one-liners. And by making himself the brunt of his own humor, he could reach those MBA arms of his right into our consciences and wrest away any pretensions that we might have, or self-righteousness.

Mo made us see our foibles, not by moralizing or yelling at us. He did not say "Change those wretched ways." Rather, he made us laugh at ourselves, even against our will, and he forced, and I do mean forced, us to see the smallness of ourselves. He forced us to see our blindness, our pettiness, the vanity we sometimes have, our ego-mania.

Coming from a conservative State like Arizona, Mo Udall defied easy or politically opportune choices. He voted his conscience. He voted it whether the topic was racial equality back in the 1960s, the dire need for government to assume better stewardship of its public lands, or the sacrifice of American lives in Vietnam. He spoke out on those issues.

But no one in our country, Johnny Carson, Bob Hope, Jack Benny included, could keep a straight face like Mo could. With that humor, he carried a very serious and a profound message and that humor helped to enlighten the ignorant, satirize the comforted, and make us take inventory at every moment of the beauty and fragility of our lives.

Even as his health waned, Mo was passing on a message of hope to us: Help those of us whose bodies are imprisoned by Parkinson's and other such illnesses to recover. Even when he was unable to speak to us, Mo and his loyal and extraordinary family brought about policy changes in the health field that few might have imagined possible.

For those in this body who have had the opportunity to be touched by Mo, today is an appropriate occasion to remember a man who brought civility through humor into the political process.

For those who were not fortunate enough to have known this man, they have missed an icon. But they should seek solace in knowing two things. The political process in the United States of America has been deeply enriched by the contributions, and because of the contributions of Mo Udall, there is a secure place in public service for those willing to take a step back and look at their own shortcomings.